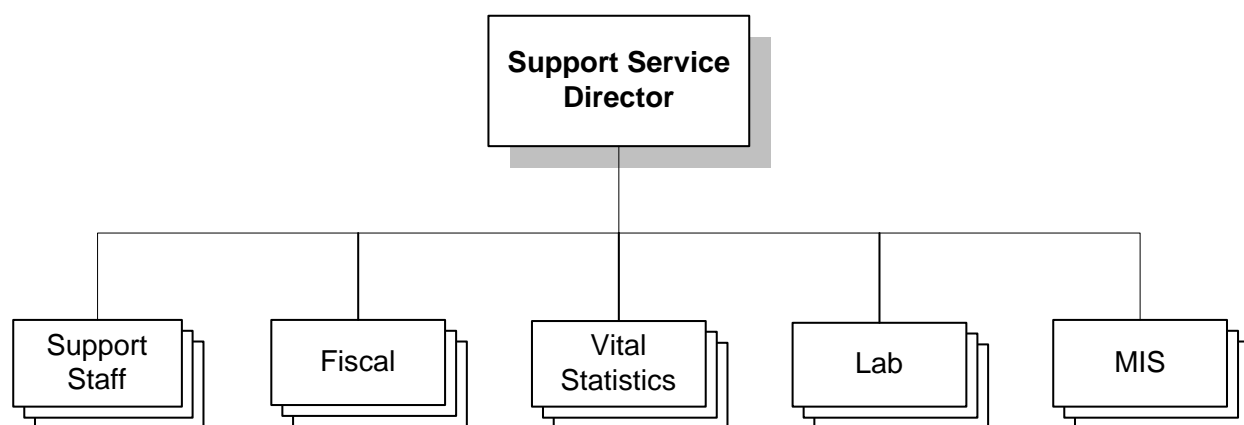
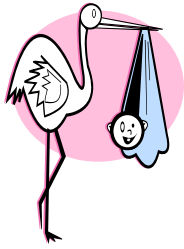


Support Service Programs



Vital Statistics



BIRTH AND DEATH RECORDS



Executive Summary

The vital statistics department houses the local registrar responsible for issuing certified copies of the birth (after 1936) and death records occurring in Chelan and Douglas counties. Burial-transit permits are also issued to funeral homes when the death certificate is approved and signed by the local registrar. Chelan Douglas Health District is the only location in our two counties where these documents can be issued.

2005 Statistics

- 5,280 certified copies of death certificates were issued in 2005, compared to 4,832 in 2004
- 3,597 certified copies of birth certificates were issued in 2005, compared to 3,154 in 2004

Maintaining birth and death records in Chelan and Douglas counties is a function of the vital statistics department. Following is an approximation of births and deaths in our two counties for the past five years.

Year	Deaths	% Difference	Births	% Difference
2001	804	2 ½% decrease	1,411	2 ½% decrease
2002	879	9% increase	1,374	3% decrease
2003	966	10% increase	1,315	4% decrease
2004	863	10% decrease	1,345	2% increase
2005	882	2% increase	1,389	3% increase

Outstanding Challenges

The Center for Health Statistics has developed an Electronic Death Registration System. It is an on-line, web-based system that captures and stores death certificate data. The EDRS will replace a labor-intensive, time-consuming, paper-based, manual process with a web system that allows funeral directors, cause-of-death certifiers, local deputy registrars, and state staff to have online input and approval capability. The pilot stage began in Tacoma, Pierce County in 2005. The next counties in line are Spokane, Benton-Franklin, and King. When the EDRS is implemented here we will be involved in outreach training of system users